Lt. Frank W. Loops, 0-667527
432 Sqdn., 17th Bomb. Gp.
A.P.O. 520, % Postmaster N.Y.C.

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Mr. + Mrs. Charles E. Loops
5418 - 13th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A.

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Nov. 7, 1943

Hello Folks,

Hyar's that man agin - so watch out 'cuz I don't know what's coming either! We are in the midst of one of our rainy spells again and while it just stopped raining - there's no telling just when it will start up again. It sorta turns on and off at it's own free will and we just try to bear with it!

Been sort of a dull week for us this past week, - so have spent my time useless as usual. Been into town about 3 times, mostly to get some ice cream at the Officer's Red Cross. Once we stayed in and ate supper, wow! Just to get a change in our diet of "C" rations. We were going in today for supper - but the rain changed all of that. It's a good thing tho. for when I went by the cook's shack on way to dinner I saw

them cutting up some fresh meat! Steaks it looked like! It would be a shame to miss the only fresh meat we've had in a couple of weeks, wouldn't it? - That, - I'll not do, believe me!

Just got thru reading the Sunday Post for Sept. 19th. - It just so happens that I opened it on a Sunday, but that makes it kinda nice. - The Sunday comics at least gives us an air of it being Sunday. That's about all we have ~~f~~ to designate it from the rest of the week. Spent about 3 hrs reading it. - Must have covered most everything in it including all the adds! The "picture" adds, I mean - not the classified ones. Don't know why I get such a bang out of 'em but I do. - The same way with magazines. We usually read them twice. First for the adds + the jokes, and then for the stories or articles - in just that order, too! Now my Post is making its rounds of the camp with the comics most popular, of course! What else?

Ma, you should have seen me perform a major operation on a pair of my winter trousers yesterday! I've been talking about doing it for a long time, but yesterday I actually got down to doing it. When I dug them out to wear - I found the waist a couple of inches too big so decided to take it in. At first I was tempted to just move the buttons over, as my Texas tailor once did - but finally I decided to go the whole hog and fix a new seam in the back. - Not burning my bridge behind me, tho, for I left the old seam in until after I had made my new one and had both tried them on and tested them for strength or durability! - You can't tell too much about my sewing before hand, ya know! Well, - the "mission" accomplished, so to speak, - they seem to be okie doke. They fit lots better, feel lots better, and my friends assure me that in spite of my doing the job, they even look better! You probably wouldn't approve of the method, or stitch - but I "done it"! Al. Brenner says I'm "checked out" now

as a tailor and should feel free to hang out my shingle! - However, think I will conserve my "art" to my own needs, and hope the occasion to display it doesn't come too often! - I don't like doing what I don't know anything about.

Our mail seems to have fallen off again lately, but guess in a week or so, everything will catch up. - Hope so for we sure do like to get our mail - It, in the very least, gives us something to look forward to! - If you know what I mean.

Did I tell you that I finally bought my "top coat," or raincoat? - Well I did - as you might guess, they got the supply in the day I didn't go in, so that on the day I did go, my exact size had been sold out. Oh, well. - I got the very next size and it isn't too big. - I've already used it. - Wear it at night when we go see the movie and for the last few nights - have been sleeping with it over my bed! - It is fairly lightweight, but

5/ very warm with the liner in. - Don't know what the liner is made ~~of~~ of, but it has the property of preventing the body heat from escaping - so keeps you warm that way. 'Tis good and I'm already glad I bought it!

While I think of it. - Sometime when you have a box coming this way (ahem) you might enclose a pair or two of some thick wool socks. - Guess these heavy athletic sweat socks will do - size 12 or so. I can wear them over my regular ones when the weather turns a bit more chilly. -

Been playing with "Butch" - the dog ~~th~~ (puppy) I took up for a ride the other day. - When he gets grown he will be pretty big, but right now he is at the ~~clumsy~~ clumsy stage, and being full of life, is quite a character! - One of these days I'm going to break down and get me a pup. Been fighting the urge since I left the states, sometimes yes, and some times no, when I think of the trouble of

keeping and feeding it.

Soon we are going to try our hand at cooking chickens. - An old hen and a baby chick that wander around here have adopted our "pup tent," that we use for a storage place, for a roost. The hen will go good baked - and the chick is almost the right size for frying! - The frying will be easy for us - but the baking is something else! - Think we will have to dig a pit - cover the hen with mud - and bake her that way, as we have no available stoves, or ovens, I should say. See now why I should have been a Boy Scout? I seem to do pretty well without that, tho!

Well, - I've run down again as usual - and as you've born with me this long, there's not much point in my boring you any longer with my ramblings. So for now - be good - and I guess I should start wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving Day or something. Buy your "turk" with my money and think of me when you eat it!

Lots of Love
Frank